

**DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND  
POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

**TYPE OF DECLARATION**

The declaration is of the following type:

- ☒ original
- ☐ design
- ☐ supplemental

**INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION**

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,  
and

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed  
and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**INLINE CONTROL VALVE WITH RACK AND PINION MOVEMENT**

The specification of which

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on

as Application Serial Number

and was amended on (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified  
specification, including the claim, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to the examination of  
this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section  
1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119  
of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also  
identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having filing  
date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**Prior Foreign Application(s)  
Priority Claimed**

☐ YES ☐ NO

D/	M/	YR FILED
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☐ YES ☐ NO

D/	M/	YR FILED
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of this Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application  
Serial No.

Filing Date

Status-patented, pending,  
abandoned

Application  
Serial No.

Filing Date

Status-patented, pending,  
abandoned

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agents(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection herewith.

Darcell Walker, #34,945. I hereby request that all correspondence, notices, official letters and other communication be directed to Darcell Walker, 9301 Southwest Freeway, Suite 250, Houston, Texas 77074; and that all telephone calls be directed to Darcell Walker at (713) 772-1255.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FIRST or SOLE INVENTOR

Signature Morris LaVergne Date 2/24/04

Full Name: Morris LaVergne, Jr.  
Residence: 9031 Eaglecove Drive  
Houston, Texas, USA 77064

Citizenship: United States

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: MORRIS LAVERGNE

Attorney Docket No.: 15.1600

Application No.:

Filed: HEREWITH

For: INLINE CONTROL VALVE WITH  
RACK AND PINION MOVEMENT

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b) - INDEPENDENT INVENTORS**

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an Independent inventor, as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c), for the purposes of paying reduced fees under Sections 41(a) and (b) of Title 35 United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the INLINE CONTROL VALVE WITH RACK AND PINION MOVEMENT described in

  X   the specification filed herewith.

       application no. \_\_\_\_\_, filed HEREWITH.

       patent no. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and I am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9 (c), if that person had made the invention, or to any concern that would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9 (e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

  X   no such person, concern, or organization.

       persons, concerns or organizations listed below

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

MORRIS LAVERGNE, JR.

Name of First Inventor

Morris Lavergne

Signature of Inventor

Date 2/24/04